DISTRICT OFFICE 41914 N. 50<sup>th</sup> Street West Quartz Hill, CA 93536 (661) 722-0716 www.westside.k12.ca.us

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### SCHOOL SITES

ANAVERDE HILLS SCHOOL Kristin Gellinck-Frye, Principal

COTTONWOOD SCHOOL Paula Sour, Principal

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MOUNTAIN SCHOOL Scott Brewer, Principal



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
John Curiel
Steve DeMarzio
Gwendolyn Farrell
Linda Jones
Joan Sodergren

August 7, 2012

**ADOPTED** 

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Dean Logan Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Department Headquarters 12400 Imperial Highway Norwalk, California 90650 52 August 21, 2012

Sachi a. Hamae SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Re:

Westside Union School District General Obligation

Bond Election, November 6, 2012

Dear Mr. Logan:

Enclosed is a certified copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Westside Union School District ordering a general obligation bond election for November 6, 2012. This election is being ordered under Proposition 39 and requires a 55% vote for passage.

In order to comply with Proposition 39 and related statutes the Board has adopted a full ballot text to be printed in the ballot pamphlet and an abbreviated form of measure (Appendix A and B to the Resolution).

The Board of Trustees has requested consolidation of this election with others occurring on the same day and we are submitting a copy of the resolution to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

Yours very truly,

Regina Rossall Superintendent

cc:

County Superintendent of Schools Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

### **RESOLUTION NO. 13-07**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESTSIDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT ORDERING AN ELECTION TO AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF SCHOOL BONDS, ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER, AND REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION WITH OTHER ELECTIONS OCCURRING ON NOVEMBER 6, 2012

WHEREAS, on November 7, 2000, the voters of the State of California approved Proposition 39 ("Proposition 39"), which amended Article XIIIA of the California Constitution to allow for the levy of ad valorem property taxes for the payment of bonded indebtedness of a school district, community college district or county office of education approved by at least 55 percent of the voters voting on such proposition; and

WHEREAS, upon the passage of Proposition 39, the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bond Act of 2000, being California Education Code Section 15264 and following (the "Strict Accountability Act"), became operative; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proposition 39 and the Strict Accountability Act, on November 4, 2008, a bond election was conducted within the boundaries of the Westside Union School District (the "District") on the question of authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds of the District in the aggregate principal amount of \$63,500,000 (the "Measure WS Bonds"), and more than 55 percent of the voters voting on the proposition approved the passage of Measure WS; and

WHEREAS, the District has previously issued or caused to be issued two series of the Measure WS Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of \$44,998,783.35, leaving \$18,511,216.65 of Measure WS Bonds which have been authorized but unissued by the District (the "Unissued Measure WS Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, Section 15268 of the Strict Accountability Act requires that at the time of issuance of any series of Measure WS Bonds, that the District must project that the tax rate levied to pay debt service on such Measure WS Bonds, together with debt service due on other series of Measure WS Bonds which have previously been issued, will not exceed \$30 per year per \$100,000 of taxable property; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the general economic downturn commencing in 2008 and declines in the assessed valuations of property in the District since then, the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of the District has determined that the District will be unable to issue any additional series of the Unissued Measure WS Bonds in the immediate future, due to an inability to make the tax rate projections required under the Strict Accountability Act, without issuing such bonds as long-term capital appreciation bonds which would result in excessive borrowing costs imposed on the property tax payers in the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that there continues to be an urgent need in the District for the completion of the educational projects approved by District voters under Measure WS and that no other District resources are available to finance such projects; and

WHEREAS, in order to complete the educational projects for which Measure WS Bonds have been authorized, and to avoid excessive borrowing costs which would result from the issuance of long-term capital appreciation bonds, the Board has determined to call an election to submit to the electors of the District the question whether a new issue of general obligation bonds of the District (the "Reauthorized Bonds"), in an amount equal to the Unissued Measure WS Bonds, shall be issued and sold for the purpose of raising money to complete the educational projects for which the Measure WS Bonds have been authorized, through the acquisition and improvement of real property and the furnishing, building and equipping of school facilities of the District, al pursuant to the provisions of Proposition 39 and the Strict Accountability Act; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that the issuance of the Reauthorized Bonds will not result in an increase in the total authorized District debt pursuant to Measure WS, the Board has determined and shall covenant that prior to issuing any series of Reauthorized Bonds, the Board will take all actions which are required in order to cancel a like aggregate principal amount of Measure WS Bonds;

**WHEREAS**, the Board is authorized to pursue the authorization and issuance of the Reauthorized Bonds under Article XIIIA by a 55 percent vote of the electorate on the question whether bonds of the District shall be issued and sold for specified purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, under Section 10403 *et seq.* of the California Elections Code, it is appropriate for the Board to request consolidation of the election with any and all other elections to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, and to request the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters to perform certain election services for the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESTSIDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1. Call for Election**. The Board hereby orders an election and submits to the electors of the District the question of whether general obligation bonds of the District shall be issued and sold in the maximum principal amount of \$18,510,000 million (the "Reauthorized Bonds") for the purpose of raising money to finance school facilities and property of the District, and paying costs incident thereto, as set forth more fully in the ballot measure approved under Section 3. This Resolution constitutes the order of the District to call such election.

**Section 2. Election Date**. The date of the election shall be November 6, 2012, and the election shall be held solely within the boundaries of the District.

Section 3. Purpose of Election; Ballot Measure. The purpose of the election shall be for the voters in the District to vote on a measure, a full copy of which is attached hereto as Appendix A, containing the question of whether the District shall issue the Reauthorized Bonds for the purposes stated therein, together with the accountability requirements of Article XIIIA and the requirements of Section 15272 of the Education Code. As required by Elections Code Section 13247, the abbreviated form of the measure to appear on the ballot is attached hereto as Appendix B. The Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to make any changes to the text of the

measure as required to conform to any requirements of Article XIIIA, the Education Code or the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters.

**Section 4. Authority for Election**. The authority for ordering the election is contained in Section 15264 *et. seq.* of the Education Code and Section I paragraph (b) subsection (3) of Article XIIIA. The authority for the specification of this election order is contained in Section 5322 of the Education Code.

**Section 5. School Facilities Projects**. As required by Article XIIIA, the Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size and information technology needs in developing the list of school facilities projects set forth in Appendix A.

Section 6. No Increase in District Debt; Cancellation of Unissued Measure WS Bonds. The aggregate original principal amount of all of the Measure WS Bonds which are issued by the District, together with the aggregate original principal amount of the Reauthorized Bonds which are issued by the District, shall not exceed \$63,500,000, being the original authorized amount of the Measure WS Bonds. To that end, the Board hereby covenants as follows:

- (a) prior to the issuance of any series of the Reauthorized Bonds, the Board shall adopt a resolution petitioning the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County to cause the Unissued Measure WS Bonds to be canceled in a principal amount equal to the principal amount of such series of Reauthorized Bonds; and
- (b) under any circumstances, including but not limited to a failure or refusal by the County to cancel a portion of the Unissued Measure WS Bonds, the Board shall not authorize the issuance of any Unissued Measure WS Bonds or Reauthorized Bonds if such issuance would cause the aggregate original principal amount of all of the Measure WS Bonds which are issued by the District, together with the aggregate original principal amount of the Reauthorized Bonds which are issued by the District, to exceed \$63,500,000.

Section 7. Covenants of the Board upon Approval of the Reauthorized Bonds by the Electorate. As required by Article XIIIA and Section 15278 of the Education Code, in the event 55 percent or more of the voters voting in the District approve of the Reauthorized Bonds, the Board shall:

- (a) Conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the funds have been expended only on the projects listed in Appendix A;
- (b) Conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the proceeds from the sale of the Reauthorized Bonds until all of those proceeds have been expended for the school facilities projects listed in Appendix A; and
- (c) Establish and appoint members to an independent citizens' oversight committee in accordance with Sections 15278, 15280, and 15282 of the Education Code.

**Section 8. Delivery of this Resolution**. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters (the "County Registrar") and the Los Angeles County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. The County Registrar is hereby requested to print the full text of the ballot measure in the ballot materials and to publish the Notice of School Bond Election in a newspaper of general circulation within the District.

**Section 9. State Matching Funds.** The District hereby requests that the County Registrar include the following statement in the ballot pamphlet, pursuant to Section 15122.5 of the Education Code:

"Approval of Measure \_\_\_\_ does not guarantee that the proposed project or projects in the Westside Union School District that are the subject of bonds under Measure \_\_\_ will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure \_\_\_. The District's proposal for the project or projects may assume the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure."

Section 10. Consolidation of Election; Request to Provide Services. The County Registrar and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors are hereby requested to consolidate the election ordered hereby with any and all other elections to be held on November 6, 2012, within the District. Pursuant to Section 5303 of the Education Code and Section 10002 of the Elections Code, the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County is requested to permit the County Registrar to render all services specified by Section 10418 of the Elections Code relating to the election, for which services the District agrees to reimburse Los Angeles County in full upon presentation of a bill, such services to include the publication of a formal Notice of School Bond Election and the mailing of the sample ballot and tax rate statement (described in Section 9401 of the Elections Code).

Section 11. Ballot Arguments; Tax Rate Statement. Any and all members of this Board are hereby authorized to act as an author of any ballot argument prepared in connection with the election, including a rebuttal argument. The President of the Board, the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent, Business Services, or any designee of the foregoing, are hereby authorized to execute any Tax Rate Statement or other document and to perform all acts necessary to place the bond measure on the ballot.

**Section 12. Accountability Measures.** As required by Section 53410 of the Government Code, a statement in substantially the following form shall be included on the ballot for the Reauthorized Bonds, and the Board covenants to comply with the reporting requirements contained in Section 53411 of the Government Code:

### **Accountability Measures**

As required by Section 53410 of the Government Code, the following accountability measures are hereby made a part of the District's Bond Measure \_\_ (the "Measure"):

- (a) The specific purpose of the Bonds is set forth in the Full Text of the Measure:
- (b) The proceeds from the sale of the District's bonds will be used only for the purposes specified in the Measure, and not for any other purpose;
- (c) The proceeds of the Bonds will be deposited into a Building Fund to be held by the Los Angeles County Treasurer, as required by the California Education Code; and
- (d) The Superintendent of the District shall cause an annual report to be filed with the Board of Trustees of the District, the first report to be filed not later than one year after the issuance of the first series of the Bonds, which report shall contain pertinent information regarding the amount of funds collected and expended, as well as the status of the projects listed in the Measure, as required by Sections 53410 and 53411 of the Government Code.

**Section 13. Maturity Limit of Bonds.** The Reauthorized Bonds may be issued in series by the District from time to time, and each series of Bonds shall mature not more than 40 years from the date of issuance thereof. The Reauthorized Bonds shall be issued under the Education Code, under the provisions of Section 53506 of the California Government Code, or under any other provision of law authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds by school districts.

**Section 14. Joint/Community Use.** Using funds from the Reauthorized Bonds, the District may enter into agreements with the cities of Palmdale or Lancaster, the County of Los Angeles or other agencies or nonprofit organizations for joint use of school facilities in accordance with Education Code Section 17011.42 (or any successor provision). The District may seek State grant or matching funds for eligible joint-use projects as permitted by law, and Bond funds may to be used to fund all or a portion of the share for such eligible joint-use projects as the Board shall determine.

Section 15. Engagement of Professional Services. The firm of Dale Scott & Company is hereby designated to act as financial advisor to the District, and the firm of Jones Hall, A Professional Law Corporation, is hereby designated as bond counsel to the District, in connection with the election proceedings authorized under this Resolution and the issuance of any bonds in the event such election is approved by the requisite percentage of voters. The Superintendent is hereby authorized and directed to enter into an agreement with each of such firms in the respective forms on file with the Clerk of the Board.

Section 16. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect on and after its adoption.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Westside Union School District of Los Angeles County, being the Board authorized by law to make the designations therein contained by the following vote, on August 7, 2012.

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0

Absent: 0

Steve DeMarzio,

Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Westside Union School District

### APPENDIX A

# BALLOT MEASURE FULL TEXT

To increase student computer /technology access; repair, equip and modernize elementary classrooms /school facilities; replace outdated heating /air conditioning; and reduce overall borrowing costs, shall \$18,510,000 of Westside Union School District bonds, previously approved by voters in November 2008, be reauthorized through issuance of new bonds, with no increase in total authorized District debt, interest rates below legal limits, independent citizen oversight, no money for administrator salaries, and all funds spent locally and not taken by the State?

Bonds—Yes

Bonds---No

### **BOND AUTHORIZATION**

By approval of this measure by at least 55 percent of the registered voters voting on the measure, the District will be authorized to issue and sell bonds of up to \$18,510,000 in aggregated principal at interest rates not in excess of the legal limit and to provide financing for the specific school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List described below, subject to all the accountability requirements specified below.

The Bonds may be issued under the provisions of the California Education Code (starting at Section 15100), under the provisions of the California Government Code (starting at Section 53506), or under any other provision of law authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds by school districts. The Bonds may be issued in series by the District from time to time, and each series of Bonds shall mature within the legal limitations set forth in the applicable law under which the Bonds are issued.

District voters previously approved Measure WS at an election held in the District on November 4, 2008. However, due to State law limitations imposed on the issuance of bonds under Measure WS, the District estimates that it will be unable to issue any additional Measure WS Bonds in the immediate future. The Board of Trustees of the District has found and determined that there continues to be an urgent need in the District for the completion of the educational projects approved by District voters under Measure WS, and that no other District resources are available to finance such projects. If the Bonds are approved and issued, the Board of Trustees of the District has covenanted that it will cancel and shall not authorize the issuance of Measure WS Bonds in a like amount.

# **ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this measure in order that the voters and taxpayers in the District may be assured that their money will be spent wisely. Expenditures to address specific facilities needs of the District will be in compliance with the requirements of Article XIIIA, Section 1(b)(3), of the State Constitution and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Education Code Sections 15264 and following).

**Evaluation of Needs**. The School Board has identified detailed facilities needs of the District and has determined which projects to finance from a local bond at this time. The School Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction, enrollment growth, and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List shown below.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. The School Board shall establish an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee under Education Code Section 15278 and following to ensure that bond proceeds are expended only on the school facilities projects listed below. The committee will be established within 60 days of the date when the results of the election appear in the minutes of the School Board.

**Performance Audits**. The School Board shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed below.

**Financial Audits**. The School Board shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed below.

### **FURTHER SPECIFICATIONS**

**No Administrator Salaries.** Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this measure shall be used only for the construction, reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of school facilities including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities or acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

### BOND PROJECT LIST

Projects Subject to Available Funding. The following list of projects is subject to the availability of adequate funding to the District. Approval of the bond measure does not guarantee that the proposed projects in the District that are the subject of bonds under the measure will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by the bond measure. The District's proposal for the projects may assume the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.

Scope of Projects. Bond proceeds will be expended to modernize, replace, renovate, construct, acquire, equip, furnish, rebuild and otherwise improve educational

and support facilities within the District. Projects which are described below include all related and incidental costs, including their share of the costs of the election and bond issuance and costs of design, engineering, architect and other professional services, inspections, site preparation, utilities, landscaping, construction management and other planning, legal, accounting and similar costs, independent annual financial and performance audits, a customary construction contingency, and other costs incidental to and necessary for completion of the listed projects.

Bond proceeds may also be expended to acquire real property (or any interest in real property) for future educational and support facilities and to acquire and install furniture, fixtures and equipment at any classrooms and other educational facilities within the District. The District may alter the scope and nature of any of the specific projects which are described below as required by conditions that arise during the course of design and construction.

Whenever specific items are included in the following list, they are presented to provide examples and are not intended to limit the generality of the broader description of authorized projects. The order in which particular projects are listed is not intended to indicate priority for funding or completion.

# RENOVATION, MODERNIZATION, REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOMS, SCHOOLS, AND FACILITIES

Bond proceeds will be expended to modernize, replace, renovate, construct, acquire, equip, rebuild and furnish the District's classrooms, restrooms, and other educational facilities including those located at:

Anaverde Hills Elementary School

Del Sur School

Gregg Anderson Academy

Joe Walker Middle School

Quartz Hill Elementary School

Sundown Elementary School

Cottonwood Elementary School

Esperanza Elementary School

Hillview Middle School

Leona Valley Elementary School

Rancho Vista Elementary School

Valley View Elementary School

Whenever specific items are included in the following list, they are presented to provide an example and are not intended to limit the generality of the broader description of authorized projects. Such projects shall include but shall not be limited to:

- Upgrade electrical systems and improve student access to computers and modern technology
- Upgrade, modernize, and renovate outdated classrooms
- Upgrade old heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems
- Installation of on site cameras and door hardware upgrades for student safety
- Installation of synthetic turf for water conservation
- Construct, upgrade, and renovate student support facilities including libraries, multipurpose rooms, restrooms, offices, and cafeterias

0	Make handicap accessibility (ADA) upgrades and improvements throughout the District, including restrooms, classrooms, and playgrounds				
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### **APPENDIX B**

# BALLOT MEASURE ABBREVIATED FORM

To increase student computer /technology access; repair, equip and modernize elementary classrooms /school facilities; replace outdated heating /air conditioning; and reduce overall borrowing costs, shall \$18,510,000 of Westside Union School District bonds, previously approved by voters in November 2008, be reauthorized through issuance of new bonds, with no increase in total authorized District debt, interest rates below legal limits, independent citizen oversight, no money for administrator salaries, and all funds spent locally and not taken by the State?

Bonds—Yes Bonds—No

# Westside Union School District Tax Rate Statement for Bond Measure \_\_ Election to be held November 6, 2012

An election will be held in Westside Union School District (the "District") on November 6, 2012 to reauthorize the sale of \$18,510,000 in general obligation bonds, previously approved by voters in November 2008 through the issuance of new bonds. The following information is submitted in compliance with Sections 9400-9404 of the California Elections Code.

- 1. The best estimate of the tax rate that would be required to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the first series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$.02372 per \$100 (\$23.72 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2013-14.
- 2. The best estimate of the tax rate that would be required to fund this bond issue during the first fiscal year after the sale of the last series of bonds, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$.02372 per \$100 (\$23.72 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation in fiscal year 2013-14.
- 3. The best estimate of the highest tax rate that would be required to fund this bond issue, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing this statement, is \$.02372 per \$100 (\$23.72 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.
- 4. The best estimate of the average tax rate that would be required to fund this bond issue, based on estimated assessed valuations available at the time of filing this statement, is \$.01567 per \$100 (\$15.67 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.

These estimates are based on projections derived from information obtained from official sources. The actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary depending on the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold at each sale and actual increases in assessed valuations. The timing of the bond sales and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the needs of the District. Actual assessed valuations will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined in the assessment and the equalization process.

Dated <u>August</u> 7, 2012 <u>Geogra P Jonall</u> Regina Rossall

Superintendent

Westside Union School District

<u>DISTRICT OFFICE</u> 41914 N. 50<sup>th</sup> Street West Quartz Hill, CA 93536 (661) 722-0716 www.westside.k12.ca.us

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MOUNTAIN SCHOOL Scott Brewer, Principal



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
John Curiel
Steve DeMarzio
Gwendolyn Farrell
Linda Jones
Joan Sodergren

August 8, 2012

Dean Logan Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Department Headquarters 12400 Imperial Highway Norwalk, California 90650 Sachi Hamai
Executive Officer of the Board of
Supervisors
Kenneth Hahn Hall of
Administration
500 W. Temple St., Ste 383
Los Angeles, California 90012

Arturo Delgado, Ed. D Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools Los Angeles County Office of Education 9300 Imperial Highway Downey, CA 90242

Re:

Westside Union School District (Los Angeles County, California) Resolution Calling Election on November 6, 2012 (Parcel Tax

Election)

To Whom It May Concern:

As required by Education Code 5322 and Elections Code Section 10403, enclosed is the Resolution adopted on August 7, 2012 (the "Resolution") by the Governing Board of the Westside Union School District (the "District") calling a parcel tax election to be conducted in the District on November 6, 2012.

The Resolution constitutes the "specification of the election order" pursuant to Education Code Section 5322. In addition, pursuant to Elections Code Section 10403, the Resolution requests consolidation with all other elections to be held in the District on November 6, 2012, and includes as Exhibit A and Exhibit B the Full Text of the Ballot Measure and the Abbreviated Form (75 words), respectively. This parcel tax measure requires a 2/3 vote for passage.

Should you have any questions on the attached, please do not hesitate to contact me at (661) 722-0716, or my legal counsel, Charles Adams, at (415) 391-5780.

Regina Rossall Superintendent

Cc: Charles Adams Jones Hall APLC 650 California Street, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor San Francisco, CA 94108

### **RESOLUTION NO. 13-09**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESTSIDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT ORDERING AN ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT THE QUESTION OF LEVYING AN EDUCATION PARCEL TAX UPON EACH PARCEL IN THE DISTRICT FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AND ESTABLISHING THE SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER

WHEREAS, the Westside Union School District (the "District") is devoted to providing high quality public education for local students; and

WHEREAS, the State of California has made significant cuts to education funding since 2008, causing reductions to academic programs; and

WHEREAS, the District has already made deep cuts and budget reductions and therefore steps must be taken to help prevent future cuts to critical academic programs and educational staff; and

WHEREAS, the District needs a local source of revenue that cannot be taken away by the state to continue to provide high quality education for its students; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of the District (the "Board") has determined that the present revenues of the District are inadequate to fund the cost of education within said District, and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XIIIA of the California Constitution and California Government Code Sections 50079 et seq. and 50075 et seq. (the "Law") authorize a school district, upon approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the electorate voting on the measure, to levy a qualified special tax for specified purposes following notice and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, November 6, 2012 is an established election date and a statewide election date pursuant to the provisions of the California Elections Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board has on this date held a public hearing, which was duly noticed, where all interested persons have been heard on the matter of holding an election in the District on the matter of levying a qualified special tax on each parcel in the District; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees desires at this time to order an election to be held on November 6, 2012 in the District for the purpose of submitting to the voters in the District the matter of levying a qualified special tax on each parcel in the District pursuant to the Law for educational purposes (sometimes referred to herein and in the exhibits attached hereto as an "education parcel tax") and to designate the specifications thereof, pursuant to Education Code Section 5320 et seq. and to request consolidation with all other elections held in the District on such date, and to request the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters to perform election services for the District; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESTSIDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

**Section I. Call for Election**. The Board hereby orders an election and submits to the electors of the District the question of whether an education parcel tax shall be levied and collected in the District for the specific purposes as set forth more fully in the ballot proposition approved herein and as set forth on Exhibits A and B hereto. This Resolution constitutes the order of the District to call such election and shall constitute the "specifications of the election order" pursuant to Education Code Section 5322.

**Section 2. Election Date**. The date of the election shall be November 6, 2012, and the election shall be held solely within the boundaries of the District.

Section 3. Purpose of Election; Ballot Proposition. The purpose of the election shall be for the voters in the District to vote on a proposition, a full copy of which is attached hereto and marked Exhibit A, containing the question of whether the District shall levy an education parcel tax in the District for the specific purposes stated therein, together with the accountability requirements of Government Code Section 50075.1. As required by Education Code Section 5322 and Elections Code Section 13247, the abbreviated form of the measure to appear on the ballot is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit B. The Board of Trustees hereby authorizes and directs the Superintendent or his designee to make any changes to the text of the proposition as required to conform to any requirements of the Law or the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters, which changes shall be evidenced by a direction letter executed by the Superintendent and delivered to the County Registrar of Voters, but only if and to the extent determined to be necessary by legal counsel or as required by the County Registrar of Voters.

**Section 4. Authority for Election**. The authority for ordering the election is contained in Section 4 of Article XIIIA of the California Constitution and California Government Code Sections 50079 et seq. and 50075 et seq. The authority for the specification of this election order is contained in Section 5322 of the Education Code.

**Section 5.** Type of Tax Rate, and Method of Collection. Said education parcel tax shall be levied in an equal amount against each parcel of taxable real property in the District in the amount of \$96.00 per parcel for four years, commencing with fiscal year 2013-14.

A parcel shall be defined as any unit of land in the District that receives a separate tax bill for *ad valorem* property taxes from the Los Angeles County Tax Collector, and shall be collected in the same manner and subject to the same penalty or penalties as other taxes fixed and collected by the County on behalf of the District. For purposes of this education parcel tax, any parcels which are (i) contiguous, and (ii) used solely for owner-occupied, single-family residential purposes, and (iii) held under identical ownership may, by submitting an application of the owners thereof by June 30 of each year to the District, be treated as a single "parcel" for purposes of the levy of the core academic programs parcel tax.

**Section 6. Exemptions.** All property that would otherwise be exempt from property taxes shall also be exempt from the education parcel tax.

Section 7. Government Code Accountability Requirements. The members of the Board, the Superintendent and officers of the District are hereby requested and directed, individually and collectively, to comply with the accountability measures pursuant to Government Code Section 50075.1 that include, but are not limited, to the following: (a) a statement indicating the specific purposes of the special tax, (b) a requirement that the proceeds of the special tax be applied only to the specific purposes identified in the ballot measure, (c) the creation of an account into which the proceeds of the special tax shall be deposited, and (d) an annual report pursuant to Government Code Section 50075.3 as provided in Section 8 hereof. Such accountability measures shall be set forth on the ballot in the form of Exhibit A attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 8. Citizens Oversight.** In addition to the accountability measures required by State law, an independent Community Oversight Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Education to advise the Board on the expenditures funded by the measure in order to ensure that said funds are spent for the purposes approved by the voters. The Community Oversight Committee will monitor the expenditures of these funds by the District and will report on an annual basis to the Board and community on how these funds have been spent. Upon approval of the special tax, the Board of Education shall adopt bylaws governing the formation and administration of the Citizens Oversight Committee.

**Section 9. Annual Report.** Pursuant to Government Code Section 50075.3, the Board directs the chief fiscal officer of the District to file a report with the Board each year containing (a) the amount of education parcel tax funds collected and expended and (b) the status of any project required or authorized to be funded from the proceeds of the education parcel tax as identified in the measure.

**Section 10. Delivery of this Resolution**. The Clerk of the Board is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution *for receipt no later than 88 days prior to the November 6, 2012 election* date, as follows:

- (a) County Elections Officer (as required pursuant to Education Code Section 5322 and Elections Code Section 10403),
- (b) County Board of Supervisors (as required pursuant to Elections Code Section 10403), and
- (c) County Superintendent of Schools for the purposes of noticing the election on the measure pursuant to Education Code Section 5325(a).

**Section 11. Consolidation of Election**. The County Elections Officer and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors are hereby requested to consolidate the election ordered hereby with any and all other elections to be held on November 6, 2012, within the District.

Section 12. Ballot Arguments. Any and all members of this Board are hereby authorized to act as an author of any ballot argument prepared in connection with the election, including a rebuttal argument. The Superintendent, President of the Board, or

their designees, are hereby authorized to execute any document and to perform all acts necessary to place the measure on the ballot.

**Section 13. Notice of Election.** That the County Elections Officer is hereby requested to prepare a formal Notice of Election in time, form and manner as required by law, and the County Superintendent of Schools is hereby requested to post such notice in accordance with Education Code Section 5325. The suggested form of notice of the election is as follows:

# WESTSIDE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the qualified electors of the Westside Union School District (the "District") of Los Angeles County, that in accordance with law, an election will be held on Tuesday, the 6th of November, 2012 in the District, at which election there will be submitted the question of levying an education parcel tax of \$96.00 per parcel annually for four years, with citizens' oversight, for the purpose of raising money to pay educational costs.

Section 14. Reimbursement for Services Performed. The Westside Union School District agrees to reimburse the County Elections Officer/Registrar of Voters for services performed with respect to the election called herein following completion of such services and upon presentation of a bill.

Section 15. Professional Services. The Board hereby appoints the firm of Dale Scott & Company to act as Financial Advisor and the firm of Jones Hall, A Professional Law Corporation to act as Legal Counsel in connection with the parcel tax proceedings. The Superintendent is authorized and directed to execute an agreement with each of such firms in the respective forms on file with the Clerk of the Board.

Section 16. Election Pursuant to Law. In all particulars not recited in this Resolution, said election shall be held and conducted as provided by law for holding school district elections in the District.

**Section 17. Certification by Clerk of the Board.** That the Clerk of the Board shall certify to the passage and adoption of and shall make minutes of the passage and adoption therefore in the records of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the District, in the minutes of the meeting at which the same is passed and adopted.

Section 18. Effective Date. This resolution shall take effect on and after its adoption.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

The foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Westside Union School District of Los Angeles County, being the Board authorized by law to make the designations therein contained by the following vote, on August 7, 2012.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 1

Absent: 0

Steve DeMarzio

Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Westside Union School District

### **EXHIBIT A**

# BALLOT MEASURE FULL TEXT OF MEASURE

#### INTRODUCTION

To maintain academic programs including science, math, reading, writing, arts and music, fund computer technology, and help avoid increased class sizes with funds that cannot be taken by the State and spent elsewhere, shall Westside Union School District levy a \$96.00 parcel tax for four years, so long as an independent citizens' oversight committee is required, all funds are spent on neighborhood schools, and no money is used for administrative salaries?

### **PURPOSES**

To provide local revenue that cannot be taken by the State and to aid in preserving and improving academic programs in our schools, the Westside Union School District proposes to levy and collect a qualified special parcel tax for a period of four years, commencing with fiscal year 2013-14, in the amount of \$96.00 per parcel and to implement accountability measures to provide oversight and accountability to ensure that funds are used to:

- Fund core academic programs such as science, math, technology, reading, writing, arts and music;
- Help avoid future class size increases in all grades;
- Reduce the impact of deep State budget cuts by providing a stable local funding source that cannot be taken away by the State or other school districts; and
- Protect the taxpayers' investment in education and ensure District accountability by providing for oversight and independent financial audits of revenues and expenditures.

The Board of Trustees will utilize parcel tax proceeds for the purposes listed above, unless the Board of Trustees determines in any given year that changes in student population, fiscal constraints, or other changes in state or federal funding make doing so infeasible or inadvisable. In any event, the parcel tax revenues will be used only for the lawful educational purposes.

### TAX RATE AND DURATION

The qualified special tax shall be levied in an equal amount against each parcel of taxable real property in the District in the amount of \$96.00 per parcel for four years, commencing with fiscal year 2013-14. In no event shall the qualified special tax exceed \$96.00 per parcel per year.

### **PROCEDURES**

Levy by County. Subject to two-thirds approval of the voters, the special tax of \$96.00 per parcel shall become effective for a period of four years commencing with fiscal year 2013-14, and be collected by the Los Angeles County Tax Collector at the same time as and along with, and shall be subject to the same penalties as general ad valorem taxes collected by said tax collector.

**Definition of Parcel**. A parcel is defined as any unit of land in the District that receives a separate tax bill from the Los Angeles County Tax Collector, however, with respect to any parcel that is classified by the Los Angeles County Assessor as multi-family residential containing 2 to 4 units shall constitute 2 parcels, and those containing 5 or more units shall constitute 5 parcels, for the purposes of levying and collecting the special tax against such parcels, to the extent permitted by law.

**Exemptions.** All property that would otherwise be exempt from property taxes will also be exempt from the qualified special tax

Exclusive Procedures. The procedures described herein with respect to the levy and collection of the special tax and exemptions, and any additional procedures established by the Board of Trustees, shall be the exclusive claims procedure for claimants seeking an exemption, refund, reduction, or re-computation of the special parcel tax. Whether any particular claim is to be resolved by the District or by the County shall be determined by the District, in coordination with the County as necessary. The District's Board of Trustees may adopt such additional or supplemental procedures as it deems necessary or convenient for the administration of the qualified special tax.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES**

Government Code Accountability. In accordance with the requirements of California Government Code sections 50075.1 and 50075.3, the following accountability measures, among others, shall apply to the qualified special taxes levied in accordance with this Measure:

- the specific purposes of the education parcel tax shall be those purposes identified above under the heading "PURPOSES,"
- the proceeds of the education parcel tax shall be applied only to those specific purposes identified above under the heading "PURPOSES,"
- a separate, special account shall be created into which the proceeds of the education parcel tax must be deposited; and
- the chief fiscal officer of the District shall file an annual written report with the Board of Trustees of the District showing (1) the amount of funds collected

and expended from the proceeds of the education parcel tax and (2) the status of any projects, programs, or purposes identified above under the heading "PURPOSES."

Citizens' Oversight Committee. In addition to the accountability measures required by the Government Code, an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees to advise the Board on the expenditures funded by the measure in order to ensure that said funds are spent for the purposes approved by the voters. The Citizens' Oversight Committee will monitor the expenditures of these funds by the District and will report on an annual basis to the Board and community on how these funds have been spent.

### PROTECTION OF FUNDING

Current law forbids any decrease in State or Federal funding to the District because of the District's adoption of an education parcel tax. However, if any such funds are reduced because of the adoption of this education parcel tax, then the amount of the education parcel tax will be reduced annually as necessary in order to restore such State or Federal funding.

### SEVERABILITY

The Board of Trustees of the District hereby declares, and the voters by approving this measure concur, that every section, paragraph, sentence and clause of this measure has independent value, and the Board of Trustees and the voters would have adopted each provision hereof regardless of every other provision hereof. Upon approval of this measure by the voters, should any part be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law.

# **EXHIBIT B**

# BALLOT MEASURE ABBREVIATED FORM

To maintain academic programs including science, math, reading, writing, arts and music, fund computer technology, and help avoid increased class sizes with funds that cannot be taken by the State and spent elsewhere, shall Westside Union School District levy a \$96.00 parcel tax for four years, so long as an independent citizens' oversight committee is required, all funds are spent on neighborhood schools, and no money is used for administrative salaries?